The Florida State University College of Medicine was created in 2000 to produce Florida's compassionate physicians for the 21st century. At the Fort Pierce Regional Campus, established in 2007 as one of six campuses around the state, many Treasure Coast health-care institutions and more than 240 local physicians provide clinical training for the students’ last two years of medical school. As of summer 2013, the Fort Pierce Regional Campus had produced 71 of the 680 total FSU College of Medicine graduates.

In addition to clinical training, each student also enrolls in a community medicine course in which they are assigned to a nonprofit social service agency in the area. Working with clients from the American Cancer Society, Children’s Home Society, Child Protection Team, Councils on Aging (Martin and St. Lucie), the HANDS clinic, Harvest Food and Outreach, Healthy Start Coalition, Helping People Succeed, PACE Center for Girls, PATCHES Pediatric Care, St. Lucie County Health Department, Treasure Coast Hospice and United for Families, the students’ outreach to the community through learning and service is remarkable.

Our students also participate in several volunteer activities throughout the year. From cancer walks to health fairs, they take time away from their intense training and studying to provide community service. Consider the multiplier effect of 40 medical students per year who serve in this area, as well as the numerous physicians who are teaching and learning from these students, over the past six years. The impact is huge! Further impact will be seen as the students trained on the Treasure Coast complete their residency programs and return to the area to practice. We expect to see in Fort Pierce what we’re already seeing in regional campuses that are slightly older: Even students who leave the state for residency training often come back because of all the connections they’ve made. The two years they spend here are life-changing, for them and for our Treasure Coast communities.

And our faculty physicians say this experience is life-changing for them as well: The act of teaching is rejuvenating their love of medicine, it’s giving them more opportunities to work together, and the students’ curiosity and electronic reference materials are keeping these doctors on their toes.

The campus was recently recognized for its success. On Sept. 18 the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce hosted its 29th annual Business and Industry Awards dinner. This long-standing tradition celebrated the diversity of St. Lucie County businesses and educational institutions and recognized their contributions to our community. Semifinalists in 14 categories were recognized, then two finalists and a winner were chosen at the event. The FSU College of Medicine Fort Pierce Regional Campus was selected as a finalist in its category, education. Keiser University was the other finalist and the winner was Indian River State College.
Fort Pierce Community Board

We are so thankful to our community board for the support they provide.

Chair: Randall Bertolette, M.D.
Fort Pierce Regional Campus Dean

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CEO, St. Lucie Medical Center

Stephen Daugherty
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Kenneth Bridges, M.D.
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Michael Gilels, M.D.
Geriatrics

William Hood, M.D.
Internal Medicine

Michael Jampol, M.D.
Pediatrics

Juliette Lomax-Homier, M.D.
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Psychiatry

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Port St. Lucie Hospital Treatment Center
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Surgery Center of Okeechobee
Surgical Center of the Treasure Coast
The Surgery Center at Jensen Beach
Treasure Coast Center for Surgery
Faculty Focus

Health Care Champions, an event presented by Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers and TD Bank, celebrated health-care professionals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the quality of health care on the Treasure Coast. At a luncheon on Sept. 26, seven categories of Health Care Champions were recognized: Physician excellence, non-physician excellence, emergency medical services, administrative excellence, innovation in health care, community outreach and quality of care lifetime achievement. With many nominations judged by seven representatives from the Treasure Coast medical centers, Keiser University and TD Bank, 14 finalists were selected. Our current group of students and several of our FSU clerkship faculty were nominated, and one was selected as a finalist. Juliette Lomax-Homier, M.D., FSU education director and Fort Pierce clerkship director for obstetrics/gynecology, was a finalist in the Community Outreach category. At the luncheon, Dr. Lomax-Homier earned the title of winner for this category. Congratulations from everyone at the Fort Pierce campus.

Throughout the year our dean, Dr. Bertolette, and student support coordinator, Sandy Stevens, provide “bonus” educational sessions with our students in the form of Dean’s Rounds. So far this year, four sessions have been conducted after the Doctoring 3 course on Wednesdays. Chris Hollinger, M.D., anesthesiologist at Indian River Medical Center, volunteered his time to provide our students with hands-on training in suture knot tying and becoming IV ninjas. Donato Viggiano, M.D., plastic surgeon in Port St. Lucie, instructed our students in best practices for wound care. David Glener, M.D., anesthesiologist in Port St. Lucie, spoke about pain management. Our students really appreciate these outstanding educational experiences. Thanks so much to Drs. Hollinger, Viggiano and Glener!

Dr. Greg Turner, Associate Dean for Faculty Development, was recently at our campus to give a new session he had developed on “An Important Passport to Teaching: Motivating Learners.” The best teachers are the best motivators and vice-versa. Think of the person who has recently motivated you. These motivators are people who come by the ability to motivate naturally. They teach us to be lifelong learners, which is a hallmark of a great physician. Being motivated is an exercise for our brain, and we all know how important exercise is on a daily basis. Should it be necessary to motivate medical students and doctors? Sure, motivation makes it easier to learn, to understand and to continue forward. Motivate someone today, tomorrow and on into the future. Thanks, Dr. Turner, for motivating us here at the Fort Pierce Regional Campus!
Student Spotlight

Class of 2014 students Mia Klein and Ann Sheddan were accepted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Honor Medical Society in September. Started in Chicago in 1902, the AOA serves to recognize and enhance professionalism, academic excellence, service and leadership within the profession. Medical students are eligible for nomination if their scholastic qualifications place them in the upper 25 percent of their class. About 3,000 students, alumni, house staff and faculty are elected each year nationwide. Since its founding, more than 150,000 members have been elected into the society. Mia and Ann will be recognized at the awards ceremony at the central campus in Tallahassee during graduation week in May 2014. We congratulate these students!

The Gold Humanism Honor Society
An initiative of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation

“Humanism is defined by the link between compassion and scientific competence. When practiced, humanism in medicine fosters relationships with patients and other caregivers that are compassionate and empathetic. The humanistic doctor demonstrates the following attributes (I.E., C.A.R.E.S.).

**Integrity**: the congruence between expressed values and behavior
**Excellence**: clinical expertise
**Compassion**: the awareness and acknowledgement of the suffering of another and the desire to relieve it
**Altruism**: the capacity to put the needs and interests of another before your own
**Respect**: the regard for the autonomy and values of another person
**Empathy**: the ability to put oneself in another’s situation, e.g., physician as patient
**Service**: the sharing of one’s talent, time and resources with those in need; giving beyond what is required”

Excerpt from the website of The Arnold P. Gold Foundation for Humanism in Medicine:
http://www.humanism-in-medicine.org/

Two of our Fort Pierce Class of 2014 students, Mia Klein and Ann Sheddan, were recently inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. These students rose to the top as true exemplars of humanism by receiving multiple nominations from faculty, staff and peers in categories demonstrating clinical excellence, service to others, patient-centered approach to care and compassion. It was no surprise to the staff, faculty and students at the Fort Pierce Regional Campus that Mia and Ann were nominated and selected for this honor. They are dedicated, determined, friendly, compassionate and conscientious students. We are all so proud of them!
Student Spotlight

Third-year students **Yaoawree (Noona) Leavell** and **Fernando Guarderas** collaborated with Timothy Megraw, associate professor in biomedical sciences, and Class of 2016 students Trisha Sengupta and Mariya Zhukova on a poster presentation. Noona and Fernando (right) helped to present the poster, “Assessment of the Chicken Egg Membrane as a Stimulator of Wound Healing”, in October at the Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care in Orlando.

Three third-year students attended the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) national conference and exhibition in October in Orlando. **Cesar Garcia-Canet**, **Laura Irastorza** and **Amanda Abraira** (of the Daytona campus), pictured left, learned about preparing for residency applications, taking the boards, legislative advocacy and the nuances of the pediatric sub-specialties. We congratulate Cesar on earning a scholarship from the AAP to attend the conference.

Fourth-year student **Kulvir Nandra** presented the poster “Demographic Trends of Transition Center Patients,” co-authored by Assistant Professor Stephen Quintero, M.D., during the David A. Paulus Poster Symposium for the Florida Medical Association.

Several students took a break from studying to enjoy some creative fun. They gathered to demonstrate their scalpel skills and perform surgery on some very orange, round patients. After performing a “seedectomy,” they commenced with altering the dermis to create some interesting changes in their patient’s appearance. Pictured here (L-R) are Class of 2015 students **Paulie Bruns**, **Pratik Pandit**, **Derek Mitchell**, **Noona Leavell**, **Aaron Hayson**, **Laura Irastorza** and **Sheldon Brown**.
Some third-year students of the Class of 2015 donated their weekend time and medical expertise to educate our local citizens on asthma, diabetes and the importance of a healthy diet. The Eta Eta Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority hosted its annual back-to-school event to provide backpacks to elementary and middle school students. More than 3,000 St. Lucie County residents were served at the Havert Fenn Center in Fort Pierce. While the families waited in line, our medical students spoke with them about nutrition and wise food choices. The students also provided short informal sessions, complete with visual aids and props, on asthma and diabetes in the center’s classrooms. The students were happy to develop their patient counseling skills and serve the community. The Fort Pierce clerkship director and education director for obstetrics/gynecology, Juliette Lomax-Homier, M.D., facilitated this opportunity for these students: Cesar Garcia-Canet, Maureen (Paulie) Bruns and Pratik Pandit.

Pratik Pandit helped at the event to promote healthy living.

Saturday morning, Oct. 19, began bright and early for our students, faculty and staff volunteering in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. This walk is a powerful and inspiring opportunity to unite as a community to honor breast cancer survivors, raise awareness about steps to reduce the risk of getting breast cancer, and raise money to help the American Cancer Society fight the disease with breast cancer research, information and services, and access to mammograms for women who need them. Five students, our family medicine clerkship director, Dr. Nancy Baker, and our student support coordinator, Sandy Stevens, participated in the Indian River County walk at Riverview Park in Sebastian.

L-R: Front row: Pratik Pandit, Cesar Garcia-Canet
Back row: Paulie Bruns, Dr. Nancy Baker, Noona Leavell, Laura Irastorza
Community Service

The We Care program, a joint effort of the Indian River County Medical Society, the Indian River County Health Department and the Indian River County Hospital District, conducts clinics to provide free medical care to underserved patients.

In September, several FSU medical students assisted in surgery clinics under the direction of Fort Pierce clerkship faculty member Theodore Perry, M.D. Pictured here (L-R) are Class of 2015 students Rennier Martinez, Aaron Hayson, Dr. Perry, Pratik Pandit, Noona Leavell and Sheldon Brown. Many thanks to our students and faculty who so generously volunteer to help those in need!

In memory of his little brother Mikey, third-year student Cesar Garcia-Canet has taken the lead in organizing an FSU team for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Light the Night Walk. This walk focuses on raising money for research, financial assistance for patients, educational materials and advocacy for better treatments and health-care reform. The event will take place Friday, Nov. 8, 6:00 p.m., at the Meyer Amphitheatre in West Palm Beach. You can donate to the FSU med student team online by going to the FSU Med Students team page on the Light the Night website.
The Florida State University College of Medicine was created in 2000 to produce more primary care physicians for the state—especially physicians who will work with Florida’s rapidly growing population of residents over age 65, its millions of patients in rural areas and other medically underserved patients. Because of our focused mission, we are producing more primary care physicians than any other medical school in Florida. But students with the greatest commitment to medically serving others often have the fewest economic resources. Research also shows that students most likely to practice in medically underserved communities are those who come from such a background. This is where scholarships play a crucial role. Brett Thomas, Class of 2014 student at the Tallahassee Regional Campus, said, “I was on the path to accrue more graduate debt compared to most of my colleagues. Support from many scholarship resources has provided a spirit of liberation to pursue a specialty irrespective of the salary.”

For the second year, the Fort Pierce Regional Campus this year embarked on a campaign to provide scholarships to our students. At our recent Faculty Appreciation Celebration, we were able to provide four $5,000 scholarships to very deserving fourth-year students. Two were sponsored by the general foundation fund of the Fort Pierce Campus, and they were awarded to Kush Bhorania and Brittany Lamb. Another, the Sai Ram Scholarship, was provided by an anonymous faculty member and was earned by Ann Sheddan. The fourth scholarship was donated by a clinical pathologist and FSU faculty member at Martin Health System, Dr. Steven Lofton. This scholarship was awarded to Kulvir Nandra.
Faculty Appreciation Celebration

Two prestigious awards were given out Sept. 19, when the Fort Pierce Regional Campus of the Florida State University College of Medicine gathered its faculty members for a night of appreciation and academic updates. The event took place at the Treasure Coast Public Safety Training Complex on the campus of Indian River State College in Fort Pierce. The keynote speaker was John P. Fogarty, M.D., dean of the FSU College of Medicine, who presented an update on the achievements and ongoing success of the college.

The regional campus faculty is composed of more than 240 active Treasure Coast physicians who take turns teaching about 40 third- and fourth-year medical students. The students work one-on-one with the physicians and gain clinical experience through seeing patients in the local hospitals, surgery centers, physicians’ offices and other ambulatory care facilities.

Two faculty members received awards from Randall Bertolette, M.D., dean of the Fort Pierce campus. One, titled Guardian of the Mission, is for a physician whose activities have furthered the college’s mission: to “educate and develop exemplary physicians who practice patient-centered health care, discover and advance knowledge and are responsive to community needs, especially through service to elder, rural, minority and underserved populations.” Kenneth Bridges, M.D., the surgery clerkship director, presented this award to Rene Loyola, M.D., a surgeon at St. Lucie Medical Center in Port St. Lucie. He has been a clinical assistant professor for the Fort Pierce Regional Campus since it opened in 2007, teaching surgery to third- and fourth-year students. Dr. Loyola has developed a highly respected and successful practice while still finding time for community service. Since 1992, he has provided six-week rotations to mentor high school students interested in medicine. He has served on boards and committees in leadership roles for the hospitals. He regularly volunteers his outstanding surgical skills for Light of the World charities, going on medical mission trips to Honduras, Haiti and Nicaragua. He also does volunteer surgeries right here on the Treasure Coast, through Stateside Surgeries. Dr. Loyola consistently receives good feedback from his students: “He is an excellent role model, both in the OR and in his office. He has great work ethic and appreciates his staff.” “He maintained open communication since day one, and every week asked me how we could improve my experience.” “I did more than I ever thought possible, and the practice and teaching helped me to gain confidence in my skills.” “He takes a personal interest in his students’ development and likes to keep track of them even after they have moved on to other clerkships.”

The other award, Outstanding Community Faculty Educator, is for exemplary achievement in meeting student educational needs, working collaboratively, dedication to the curriculum principles and enthusiasm for teaching. Dudley Teel, M.D., the emergency medicine clerkship director, presented this award to Ian Cummings, M.D., an emergency medicine physician for Martin Health System. He teaches the FSU medical students in the fourth-year emergency medicine course. He has been a clinical assistant professor for the Fort Pierce Regional Campus since 2008, and is one of the favorite instructors of the students. He gets rave reviews from the students, as shown in these comments: “One of the best emergency medicine physicians I have worked with.” “Cares a lot about students yet he allows us to be independent and come up with our own plan. Dr. Cummings really enjoys teaching.” “His patient care skills are exceptional. He is charming, enthusiastic and ridiculously knowledgeable about everything - not just medically related things.” “He has the ability to teach pertinent information without being boring or intimidating. It was such an honor to work with him.”

We truly appreciate and thank the sponsors for this event, Indian River Medical Center and Martin Health System.
If you recently attended our fifth annual Faculty Appreciation Celebration, then you know we love our faculty! This country western-themed event honored the true stars of the Fort Pierce campus—our faculty physicians. The IRSC Public Safety Complex auditorium was transformed into an extravagant awards venue complete with a dancing corral, a rockin’ DJ, cornhole, hay bales, delicious grub and poker tables. Dr. Randall Bertolette, Fort Pierce Regional Campus Dean, bestowed scholarships (see Page 8) and faculty awards (see Page 9). The Wild Roses dance team provided dancing entertainment and lessons to our attendees dressed in classic country attire. More than 100 faculty, students, community board and staff enjoyed this fabulous evening. We very much appreciate two of our local hospitals who made donations to sponsor the Faculty Appreciation Celebration. We thank Indian River Medical Center and Martin Health System for their generosity.
We truly appreciate our eight clerkship directors!

L-R: Michael Jampol, M.D. (Pediatrics), Ken Bridges, M.D. (Surgery), Michael Gilels, M.D. (Geriatrics), Juliette Lomax-Homier, M.D. (Ob/Gyn), Jay Samander, M.D. (Psychiatry), Nancy Baker, M.D. (Family Medicine), Bill Hood, M.D. (Internal Medicine) and Dudley Teel, M.D. (Emergency Medicine)

We love our FSU faculty YEEHAW!

Dr. Randall Bertolette

Dr. Hal and Kendra Brown with Drs. Rick and Nancy Baker

Dr. Dennis and Minerva Cardriche

Urszula Knight and Beth Strack trying to line dance!
More photos from our Faculty Appreciation Celebration

Dr. Ken and Myrna Bridges

Dr. Jay Samander with his twin daughters Laura and Jennifer

Dr. Jay Schorr

Dr. Alma Littles

Brittany Lamb

Dr. Ed Massey
Thank you, IRSC

Over the past six years, we have received a warm welcome and generous support from Indian River State College. Thanks to the leadership from President Ed Massey, every department within the college has provided for all our needs on this campus. In particular, we would like to thank the IRSC Director of Institutional Advancement, Michelle Abaldo, and photographer Carol Stewart-Langnes for going above and beyond in providing updated headshots for our students’ residency applications while also providing photography for our major events. In addition, we thank Paul Lefavi, IRSC Director of Elearning Technology, for offering to film our students during mock interviews to help them improve their skills.

Thanks to our Affiliated Partners

The outstanding medical centers in our Treasure Coast area consistently roll out the red carpet for our medical students. We appreciate their ongoing collaboration and support to provide wonderful learning environments for clinical training. Specifically, we recognize certain institutions for going above and beyond in assistance to FSU. Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and St. Lucie Medical Center performed the mask fit testing this year and are again making flu shots available. Indian River Medical Center added something new to its orientation by instructing our students in proper dictation. Volunteering for a new experience this year, Martin Health System arranged for all-day operating room training for our students. Organized by the Clinical Educator for Perioperative Services, Amy Patterson and her crew (Cynthia Blair, Davina Osteen, Lynnell Wiemert and Kevin Carroll) educated our medical students on proper scrubbing, gowning, gloving and OR etiquette. Our students were well prepared to start their surgery and ob/gyn clerkships and were very grateful for the time and attention given to them by the Martin Health System associates.
Annual Fund Campaign

Our sixth Annual Fund Campaign will be kicking off soon! We are excited to present this opportunity to all our faculty and friends. Gifts to the Annual Fund provide our campus with unrestricted dollars that support key initiatives such as faculty development, student orientations, our graduation reception, faculty appreciation, and other special events and programs.

Your generosity helps to ensure that the FSU College of Medicine Fort Pierce Regional Campus will make a difference in the medical care available on the Treasure Coast.

Look for the Annual Fund letter in your mailbox, and please consider donating to us by designating your gift to go to the “Fort Pierce Regional Campus.”

Your participation, at any level, is greatly appreciated and will continue to advance our medical school and its mission.

If you would like to make a gift:

Online, go to: https://foundation.fsu.edu/community/give2med and designate your gift (write-in) for the Ft.Pierce Campus.

Or, you may write a check payable to “FSU Foundation, Fort Pierce Campus” and mail it to our campus.

Remember, your gift is tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Thank You to Our Donors

FY 2014 (July 1, 2013, to present)

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Every effort was made to compile an accurate listing of all gifts received. If you find an error or omission, we apologize and ask you to contact Beth Strack at 772-464-0034.